

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A standard application development template residing in a computer-readable medium and configured to facilitate application development, the standard application development template comprising:

a plurality of front-end templates configured for specifying user interface elements of an application under development, the front-end templates including at least one of each of:

a template form;

a template view; and

a template shared action; and

at least one back-end template configured for specifying background processes of the application under development, the back-end template including at least one template agent.

2. The standard application development template of claim 1, wherein the template form provides functionality directed to presenting and managing data.

3. The standard application development template of claim 1, wherein the template view provides functionality directed to presenting database records.

4. The standard application development template of claim 1, wherein the template shared action provides functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.

5. The standard application development template of claim 1, wherein the template agent provides functionality directed to execute and manage transactions running as background processes.

6. The standard application development template of claim 1, wherein the template form provides functionality directed to presenting and managing data; wherein the template view provides functionality directed to presenting

database records; and wherein the template shared action provides functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.

7. The standard application development template of claim 6, wherein the template agent provides functionality directed to execute and manage transactions running as background processes.

8. A standard application development template residing in a computer-readable medium and configured to facilitate application development, the standard application development template comprising:

- a) a plurality of front-end templates configured for defining user interface elements of an application under development; and
- b) a plurality of back-end templates configured for defining background processes of the application under development;

wherein each of the plurality of templates is user-selectable and configured to be augmented with user-selected, project-specific elements.

9. The standard application development template of claim 8, wherein the front-end templates include at least one of:

- form templates configured for managing data;
- view templates configured for presenting database records; and
- shared action templates configured for coordinating transactions among different components.

10. The standard application development template of claim 8, wherein the back-end templates include agents configured to manage actions running as background processes.

11. A computer implemented method of using a standard application development template comprising:
  - providing front-end templates including at least template forms, template views and template shared actions;
  - providing one or more back-end template components including at least template agents;
  - generating a form from the template forms;
  - generating a view from the template views;
  - generating a shared action from the template shared actions;
  - generating an agent from the template shared agents; and
  - combining the generated form, view, shared action and agent to define an application.
12. The computer implemented method of claim 11, wherein generating the form from the template forms comprises:
  - selecting a specific template form from the template forms; and
  - specifying particular user interface functionality to be leveraged.
13. The computer implemented method of claim 11, wherein generating the view from the template views comprises:
  - selecting a specific template view from the template views; and
  - specifying particular database record presentation functionality to be leveraged.
14. The computer implemented method of claim 11, wherein generating the shared action from the template shared action comprises:
  - selecting a specific template shared action from the template shared actions; and
  - specifying particular component transaction coordination functionality to be leveraged.
15. The computer implemented method of claim 11, wherein generating the agent from the template agent comprises:

selecting a specific template agent from the template agents; and  
specifying particular background processing functionality to be  
leveraged.

16. The computer implemented method of 11, wherein template forms and  
the generated form are configured to present and manage data.

17. The computer implemented method of 11, wherein template views and  
the generated view are configured to present database records.

18. The computer implemented method of 11, wherein template shared  
actions and the generated shared actions are configured to coordinate  
transactions among different components.

19. The computer implemented method of 11, wherein template agents  
and the generated agents are configured to manage actions running as  
background processes.

20. A computer implemented method of using a standard application  
development template comprising:

providing templates configured to provide standard functionality  
facilitating document management; wherein the templates include front-end  
templates configured for defining user interface elements of an application  
under development and back-end templates configured for defining  
background processes of the application under development ; and  
generating document management applications using the template  
components.

21. The computer implemented method of claim 20, wherein generating  
document management applications using the templates comprises:

receiving user selections of one or more of the front-end templates;  
receiving user specifications of project specific functions to be  
incorporated into the selected one or more front-end templates;

receiving user selections of one or more of the back-end templates;  
and  
receiving user specifications of project specific functions to be  
incorporated into the selected one or more back-and templates.

22. The computer implemented method of claim 20, wherein the front-end templates include template forms, template views and template shared actions; wherein template forms are used to present and manage data, template views are used to present database records and template shared actions are used to coordinate transactions among different components.

23. The computer implemented method of claim 20, wherein the back-end components include template agents; wherein the template agents are background processes.